an integral part of the disinvestment policy. Adequate provisions are made in the Transaction Agreements, executed as a part of strategic sale, to ensure protection of employees. The agreements provide that there is no retrenchment of employees for one year after disinvestment and even thereafter separation is possible only under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme as applicable under DPE guidelines or the Voluntary Retirement Scheme which was prevailing in the company prior to disinvestment, whichever is more beneficial for the employees.

(b) Does not arise.

International Centre for Promotion of Public Enterprises

4573. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the role of International Centre for Promotion of Public Enterprises;

(b) in what manner, the International Centre reciprocates to the cause of PSEs in the country; and

(c) what is India's membership contribution in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) International Centre for Promotion of Enterprises (ICPE), an inter-governmental organization, promotes and supports enterprise development in developing countries and countries in transition, in both public and private sector, for the purpose of fostering their economic development in the regional and global context. ICPE carries out research, training and consultancy activities by undertaking projects and assignments, organizing seminars/workshops on public sector issues. The Centre has also been conducting International MBA programme and other short-duration training programmes relevant to the current economic and social environment of the developing countries including India and the countries in transition.

(c) India is a founder member of ICPE and has been making an annual membership contribution of US $ 75,000 to ICPE.

Commissioned programmes in NER

4574. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) total outlay, annual allocation, date of sanction, utilization and achievement made towards improvement of infrastructure as well as for